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(b) the month in which they were received by Government;
(c) the months in which they were published with reviews; and
(ii) to state whether any, and if so, what steps have been taken to place them before the public at an earlier date?

A—(i) & (ii).—The statement is nil.

Administration reports under the hon. the Law Member.

*1866 *Q*.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased—

(i) to place before the Council a statement showing—
(a) the administration reports of the several departments under his control for the years 1927–28 and 1928–29;
(b) the month in which they were received by Government;
(c) the months in which they were published with reviews; and
(ii) to state whether any, and if so, what steps have been taken to place them before the public at an earlier date?

A.—(i) (a) to (c) A statement [a] is appended. Reports for 1928–29 are due only after the close of March 1929.

(ii) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 1841.

Forests

Loss sustained in the Mount Stuart concern.

*1867 *Q*.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) what the loss sustained in exploitation operations in the Mount Stuart reserve is;

(b) why such loss was sustained; and

(c) which officers, if any, were responsible for it?

A.—(a) The loss incurred in the concern from the date of its commercialization is Rs. 1,71,548, of which the loss sustained during 1926–27 is Rs. 1,55,178-3-1 and that during 1927–28 is Rs. 16,369-9-2.

(b) As regards the loss sustained during 1926–27, the attention of the hon. Member is drawn to paragraphs 4—7 of the audit report of the concern which has been placed on the Council table with G.O. Press No. 1172, Development, dated 16th July 1928. The audit report of the concern for 1927–28 is still under the consideration of Government. The Auditor's report indicates that the sawn timber trading is chiefly responsible for the loss in this case.

(c) In the circumstances given in answer to clause (b) no particular officer or officers connected with the concern can be held responsible for the loss.

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[a] Printed as Appendix IX on pages 823-824 infra.